

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

TO: D.T.E. 03-60 Service List (via E-Mail and Regular Mail)

FROM: Jesse Reyes, Hearing Officer

RE: Request for Comments re WPTS, Large Job, and Batch Hot Cuts

DATE: March 11, 2005

CC: Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary

In the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy's ("Department") Order in Mass Market Switching Investigation, D.T.E. 03-60/04-73, at 36 (Dec. 15, 2004), the Department requested that carriers confer and propose a joint recommendation regarding the Department's adoption of the New York Public Service Commission's ("NYPSC") order approving permanent hot cut rates. The Department also indicated that it would further investigate Verizon Massachusetts' ("Verizon") Wholesale Provisioning and Tracking System ("WPTS") basic hot cuts process.

On December 16, 2004, the NYPSC approved new intercarrier service quality metrics for hot cuts. Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Review Service Quality Standards for Telephone Companies, Case 97-C-0139, Order Establishing Modifications to the Intercarrier Service Quality Guidelines for Hot Cut Measurements and Standards (Dec. 16, 2004). On January 18, 2005, Verizon filed its revised Carrier-to-Carrier Guidelines with the Department and indicated that it would make Large Job and Batch Hot Cut processes available in Massachusetts on the same basis and at the same rates as in New York upon CLEC request and execution of an amendment to its interconnection agreement.

On February 24, 2005, Verizon proposed to make WPTS available in Massachusetts on the same basis as in New York upon CLEC request and execution of an amendment to its interconnection agreement. A copy of Verizon's February 24, 2005 letter, along with accompanying information explaining the WPTS process, is available on the Department's web site at http://www.mass.gov/dte/catalog/7115.htm. Verizon also proposes to charge the same rates for Basic hot cuts using WPTS, as recently approved by the NYPSC, in order to avoid re-litigation of rates. Verizon's WPTS basic hot cut process, which Verizon indicates is currently being used by some CLECs in Massachusetts, would be a supplemental process to the existing Basic hot cut process.

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The Department will receive comments on Verizon's proposal to provide Basic Hot Cuts with WPTS, Large Job Hot Cuts, and Batch Hot Cuts on the same basis as in New York, and on whether the Department need take any further action regarding implementation of hot cut processes in Massachusetts pursuant to the Department's December 15, 2005 Order in D.T.E. 03-60/04-73. Interested parties may file comments with the Department by April 5, 2005. Reply comments may be filed by April 19, 2005.